



CHIEF STEVEN ROBINETTE

**IMPORTANT
NUMBERS:**

Emergency
911

**Non-
Emergency**
(614) 277-1710

**Crime
Prevention**
(614) 277-1765

**Anonymous
Tip Line**
(614) 277-1808

**Investigative
Bureau**
(614) 277-1750



MAYOR RICHARD L. STAGE
CITY OF GROVE CITY

The Grove City Division of Police

Crime Alert

RE: Green Dot Money Pak Card Scam

DATE: May 20, 2014

Green Dot Money Cards are reloadable debit cards that can be used to pay bills or purchase items or gift cards. Many scam artists use these Green Dot Money cards to scam people out of money.

There are a variety of different ways that the scam artists will try to get people to use the Green Dot Cards. An unknown caller may call you and give you one of the following scenarios.

You owe money for a past income tax problem.
You have wired money internationally, which is against U.S. code.
You owe money for past utility bills.

Most of the time the unknown suspects will threaten the person with sending the police over to their house and arresting them or turning off their utilities. The suspects will usually 'spoof' a phone number, so that it appears the suspect is calling from a known number. The suspects are usually very pushy and threaten the victim to do what they say or they will get in trouble. Suspects will usually identify themselves as Police Officers, IRS agents or employees of known utility companies.

The suspects tell the victim to pay off their 'debt' by purchasing a Green Dot Card at a local Walmart or CVS, and telling the suspect to call them back with the serial number off of the back of the Green Dot Card. The suspects receive the serial number then transfer the funds onto a prepaid debit card. The suspect then goes to a store and turns the victim's money into a Money Gram or they purchase gift cards.

Using the Green Dot Money cards is more popular than using a money wire and the money cards are just as untraceable.

Be suspicious of anyone demanding payment immediately for any reason. Contact the Police if you believe that you have been a victim of one of these scams. The Grove City Division of Police non-emergency number is 614-277-1710.



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